

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEAЕ-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /078 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7990

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 0378

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TS, TU, LY

SUBJECT: TUNISIAN CONCERN OVER TURKISH-LIBYAN

AGREEMENT

1. RECENT TURKISH-LIBYAN AGREEMENT, SIGNED ON OCCASION OF LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER JALUD'S VISIT TO TURKEY, IS REPORTEDLY CAUSING SOME CONCERN IN TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES. WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTI (WITH WHOM I HAVE MET TWICE IN PAST TEN DAYS) HAS NOT MENTIONED SUBJECT TO ME, BOTH FRENCH AND GERMAN AMBASSADORS CLAIM THAT THIS CONCERN IS REAL.

2. TUNISIANS ARE EVIDENTLY WORRIED THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S PUTATIVE DESIRE TO OBTAIN LIBYAN OIL ON FAVORABLE TERMS AND NEED TO LOCATE JOBS FOR TURKISH WORKERS, INCLUDING THOSE BEING DISPLACED FROM EUROPE, HAS INDUCED TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO LIBYA WHICH COULD BE HARMFUL TO TUNISIA.

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IN PARTICULAR, IT IS STATED THAT LIBYANS HAVE AGREED

TO ABSORB SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF TURKISH WORKERS
AND TO CONSTRUCT SMALL ARMS FACTORY IN LIBYA.
FORMER ACTION RISKS DISPLACING SOME 60,000 TUNISIANS
NOW WORKING IN LIBYA AND THE LATTER DEVELOPMENT
RAISES TUNISIAN FEARS THAT SOMEDAY THESE ARMS MIGHT
BE USED AGAINST TUNISIANS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
INFORMATION FROM ACTION ADDRESSEES REGARDING TERMS
OF TURKISH-LIBYAN AGREEMENT AND ASSESSMENT AS TO
WHETHER, IN OPINION ACTION ADDRESSEES, AGREEMENT
WILL BE IMPLEMENTED, EITHER PARTIALLY OR FULLY.
SEELYE

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